



WEEKLY UPDATE ON ASEAN PLUS THREE RICE SITUATIONS

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Brunei

Brunei expects to expand the local rice selling channels and boost rice production of 2020 through the Local Supply Agreement.

On 12 December 2020, the Department of Agriculture and Agrifood (DAA) signed a Local Supply Agreement with Smart (B) Sbn Bhd and Syarikat Ampuan Mohammad Yoslan bin Ampuan Hj Akop/Yaakub & Anak Anak. The main goals of this agreement are to expand the sales channel for local rice and boost paddy production of local farmers. Therefore, the country's rice production trend for 2020 is expected to be positive growth. As of September this year, rice output increased by 912 tonnes to 2,290 tonnes, accounting for 66.2 percent, compared with 1,378 tonnes year-on-year.

Source: Borneo Bulletin. (2020, Dec 14). *Local rice distribution network expands.*

Myanmar

Myanmar will sell rice to China with only the cash-down payment system.

According to the Muse Rice Depot, Myanmar plans to remove the credit system in selling rice to China via the Muse border trade and will implement only the cash-down system, as aiming to prevent occurrences of fraud cases. If the cash-down system is implemented, the rice will be packed in the Muse warehouses and Chinese traders can buy products directly

with the outright purchase system, which is same as sugar trading.

Source: Global New Light of Myanmar. (2020, Dec 12). *Myanmar to sell rice to China only with down payment system.*

Viet Nam

Go Cong Tay district is set to grow only high-quality rice varieties for exports.

Authorities in Go Cong Tay district are encouraging farmers to grow only high-quality rice varieties for export. The varieties that could fetch high price are VD 20, ST 24, OM 5451, and other fragrant rice varieties. The Go Cong Tay district is a major agricultural producer in Tien Giang province, which has 8,800 hectares of rice cultivation area and farmers usually grow two or three crops a year. Also, it is the largest producer of VD 20 fragrant rice variety in the province. Additionally, many companies inside and outside the province signed agreements with farmers and co-operatives to grow VD 20 rice on large-scale rice fields.

Source: Viet Nam News (2020, Dec 15). *Mekong Delta district to grow only high-quality rice, target exports.*

Vietnamese rice prices are in an upward trend because of rice quality.

Rates for Vietnamese rice export have been increasing from mid-July 2020 due to the quality improvement and farming technology. According to the Import and Export Department under the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Vietnamese rice export is currently at about 495 USD per tonne, a positive sign for the country's rice export. Additionally, the country's export structure has been gradually shifting to high value-added rice as fragrant rice, japonica rice, and sticky rice, which are accounted for 27.15 percent, 3.39 percent, and 9.26 percent of the total country's rice export, respectively.

Source: Vietnam News Agency (2020, Dec 9). *Improved rice quality helps export prices rise.*

Gathered by the APTERR Secretariat
Tel: +66 (0) 2579 4816-17 Fax: +66 (0) 2579 4840
Email: nattakarn.san@apterr.org
Website: <http://www.apterr.org/>

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